

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed Dec. 9th, 2005. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 3-20 22-28, 34-35, 37-42, and 44-49 are now pending in the case.

Claims 1, 3, 12, 13, 15, 17-20, 34, 35, 40-42 and 44-49 have been amended to better claim the invention.

Claims 1, 21, 29-33, 36, and 43 have been cancelled without prejudice.

No claims have been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

At page 8 of the Final Office Action, claims 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 13, 16, 18, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40, and 43-47 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In light of the Examiner's comments, the Applicant has rewritten various ones of these claims into independent form, or incorporated the allowable subject matter of these claims into the underlying base claims. The Applicant has also cancelled several claims without prejudice.

Accordingly, all of the claims remaining in the case are believed to be in condition for allowance, and the Applicant respectfully requests early favorable action. If the Examiner believes there are any remaining issues that may prevent issuance of a notice of allowance in this case, the Applicant encourages the Examiner to telephonically contact the Applicant's Attorney at 617-951-2500, with hopes that any such issues may be resolved by way of Examiner Amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

At page 2-7 of the Final Office Action, claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 10-12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 23, 24, 26, 32, 33, 35, 38, 41, 42, and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Chandra et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,058,389 (hereinafter Chandra) in view of Spaur et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,122,414 (hereinafter Spaur).

In light of the Applicant's amendments to the claims, this rejection is believed to be moot. To the extent such rejection may not be moot, the Applicant traverses the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

At page 2-7 of the Final Office Action, claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 10-12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 23, 24, 26, 32, 33, 35, 38, 41, 42, and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Chandra et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,058,389 (hereinafter Chandra) in view of Spaur et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,122,414 (hereinafter Spaur).

In light of the Applicant's amendments to the claims, which are discussed above, this rejection is believed to be moot. To the extent such rejection may not be moot, the Applicant traverses the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

At page 7-8 of the Office Action, claims 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as unpatentable over Chandra.

The Applicant has cancelled claims 29-31 without prejudice and accordingly this rejection is believed to be moot. To the extent such rejection may not be moot, the Applicant traverses the rejection.

In the event that the Examiner deems personal contact desirable in disposition of this case, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 951-2500.

All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

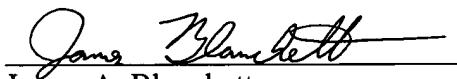
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seq 2958

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims.

The Applicant respectfully solicits favorable action.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,


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